

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of the claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. - 44. (canceled)

45. (withdrawn) A computer readable medium storing data to be read by a computer processing system, the data comprising a server application program and a document type definition (DTD) for use in storing, retrieving, searching, or tracking at least three different types of digital assets stored in a single database, each digital asset comprising content and metadata, the DTD defining the structure of the metadata with declared elements and attributes for the at least three different types of digital assets, the different types of digital assets selected from the group consisting of photographs, movies, graphics, text documents, audio recordings and video recordings, the DTD further defining metadata for rights management of at least two of the different types of digital assets, when executing the server application program, the computer processing system causes the DTD to be accessed, a demand containing user entered search parameters for information pertaining to the digital assets to be processed for transmission to the database, and search results listing different types of digital assets returned from the database to be processed for display to the user.

46. (withdrawn) The computer readable medium of claim 45 wherein the DTD is encoded in extensible markup language (XML).

47. (withdrawn) The computer readable medium of claim 45 wherein the DTD defines metadata for at least three of photographs, audio recordings, video recordings, or movies.

48. (withdrawn) The computer readable medium of claim 45 wherein the DTD comprises declared elements and attributes for at least three types of digital assets, at least one type selected from the group consisting of photographs, movies, graphics, and text documents, and another type selected from the group consisting of audio recordings and video recordings.

49. (withdrawn) The computer readable medium of claim 45 wherein the DTD defines metadata for photographs and metadata attributes for the photograph metadata, the photograph-metadata attributes comprising at least one of:

- a definition for black/white;
- a definition for color;
- a definition for caption; and
- a definition for legal restrictions associated with a photograph.

50. (withdrawn) The computer readable medium of claim 45 wherein the DTD defines metadata for audio recordings and metadata attributes for the audio-recordings metadata, the audio-recordings-metadata attributes comprising at least one of:

- a definition for music;
- a definition for track title;
- a definition for duration;
- a definition for compact disc (CD) number;
- a definition for CD title; and
- a definition for rights issues regarding use of an audio recording.

51. (withdrawn) The computer readable medium of claim 45 wherein the DTD defines metadata for movies and metadata attributes for the movie metadata, the movie-metadata attributes comprising at least one of:

- a definition for title;
- a definition for version;

- a definition for rating;
- a definition for minutes;
- a definition for release date;
- a definition for run time;
- a definition for color;
- a definition for synopsis;
- a definition for director;
- a definition for cast; and
- a definition for allowable usage of a movie.

52. (withdrawn) The computer readable medium of claim 45 wherein the DTD defines metadata for video recordings and metadata attributes for the video-recordings metadata, the video-recordings-metadata attributes comprising a definition for rights issues regarding use of a video recording.

53. (withdrawn) The computer readable medium of claim 45 wherein the rights management metadata comprises at least one of:

- a contract identifier;
- an availability start date;
- an availability end date;
- an allowed number of plays per agreement;
- a copyright holder identifier; and
- a worldwide rights identifier.

54. (currently amended) A computer readable storage medium storing data to be read by a computer processing system, the data comprising a server application program and a only one document type definition (DTD) for use in storing, retrieving, searching, or tracking at least three different types of digital assets stored in a single database, each digital asset comprising content and metadata, the DTD defining the structure of the metadata with declared

elements and attributes for the at least three different types of digital assets, the at least three different types of digital assets including photographic, audio, promo, video, movie, and voiceover digital assets, the server application program comprising modules for a parser, a query language utility, and a style sheet processor, and when executing the server application program, the computer processing system causes the parser to access the DTD, the query language utility to convert a demand containing user entered search parameters for information pertaining to the digital assets into a query to be transmitted to the database, and the style sheet processor to convert search results returned from the database into a style sheet for input to a client application.

55. (currently amended) The computer readable storage medium of claim 54 wherein the query language utility is a structured query language (SQL) utility and the style sheet processor is an extensible style sheet language (XSL) processor.

56. (currently amended) The computer readable storage medium of claim 54 wherein the DTD further defines declared elements and attributes for rights management of at least two different ones of the photographic, audio, promo, and voiceover digital assets.

57. (currently amended) The computer readable storage medium of claim 56 wherein the rights management elements and attributes comprise metadata for at least one of:

- a contract identifier;
- an availability start date;
- an availability end date;
- an allowed number of plays per agreement;
- a copyright holder identifier; and
- a worldwide rights identifier.

58. (withdrawn) A computer readable medium storing data to be read by a computer processing system, the computer readable medium comprising a client application

program stored on the computer readable medium for use in storing, retrieving, searching, or tracking digital assets in one or more databases, each digital asset comprising content and metadata, when executed by the computer processing system, the client application program causes the computer processing system to:

- access a document type definition (DTD) associated with the one or more databases that defines the structure of the metadata with declared elements and attributes for at least three types of digital assets selected from the group consisting of photographs, movies, graphics, promos, voiceovers, text documents, audio recordings and video recordings;

- prompt a user to enter search criteria that includes one or more types of digital assets and a keyword that conforms to metadata defined by the DTD;

- return search results to the user listing different types of digital assets found in the one or more databases that meet the search criteria; and

- present the user with an opportunity to download or retrieve one or more of the different types of digital assets listed in the returned search results.

59. (withdrawn) The computer readable medium of claim 58 wherein the DTD defines metadata for photographs and metadata attributes for the photograph metadata, the photograph-metadata attributes comprising at least one of:

- a definition for black/white;

- a definition for color;

- a definition for caption; and

- a definition for legal restrictions associated with a photograph; and

the client application program causes the computer processing system to prompt a user to enter search criteria that conforms to one or more of the photograph-metadata attributes.

60. (withdrawn) The computer readable medium of claim 58 wherein the DTD defines metadata for audio recordings and metadata attributes for the audio-recordings metadata, the audio-recordings-metadata attributes comprising at least one of:

- a definition for music;
- a definition for track title;
- a definition for duration;
- a definition for compact disc (CD) number;
- a definition for CD title; and
- a definition for rights issues regarding use of an audio recording; and

the client application program causes the computer processing system to prompt a user to enter search criteria that conforms to one or more of the audio-recordings-metadata attributes.

61. (withdrawn) The computer readable medium of claim 58 wherein the DTD defines metadata for movies and metadata attributes for the movie metadata, the movie-metadata attributes comprising at least one of:

- a definition for title;
- a definition for version;
- a definition for rating;
- a definition for minutes;
- a definition for release date;
- a definition for run time;
- a definition for color;
- a definition for synopsis;
- a definition for director;
- a definition for cast; and
- a definition for allowable usage of a movie; and

the client application program causes the computer processing system to prompt a user to enter search criteria that conforms to one or more of the movie-metadata attributes.

62. (withdrawn) The computer readable medium of claim 58 wherein the DTD defines metadata for rights management and the rights management metadata comprises at least one of the following attributes:

- a contract identifier;
- an availability start date;
- an availability end date;
- an allowed number of plays per agreement;
- a copyright holder identifier; and
- a worldwide rights identifier; and

the client application program causes the computer processing system to prompt a user to enter search criteria that conforms to one or more of the rights-management-metadata attributes.

63. (currently amended) A computer system for storing, searching, retrieving, and tracking different types of digital assets, the system comprising:

- a server comprising application software and a database, the database storing at least three different types of digital assets, the at least three different types of digital assets selected from the group consisting of photographs, movies, audio recordings, video recordings, graphics, and text documents, each digital asset comprising content and metadata;

- a document type definition (DTD) accessible by the server application software, the DTD defining the structure of each different type of digital asset stored in the database with declared elements and attributes;

- search and retrieval software for searching and retrieving one or more of the at least three different types of digital assets from the database, the search and retrieval software requiring a user to enter as search criteria one or more of the at least three different digital asset types; and

- a processor coupled to the server and operative to execute the search and retrieval software to:

convert search criteria entered by a user into a demand for database information; and

convert responses received from the server into a format for display to the user.

64. (previously presented) The computer system of claim 63 wherein the server application software comprises a parser, the parser operative to retrieve the structure defined in the DTD.

65. (previously presented) The computer system of claim 63 wherein the DTD defines metadata for photographs and metadata attributes for the photograph metadata, the photograph-metadata attributes comprising at least one of:

- a definition for black/white;
- a definition for color;
- a definition for caption; and
- a definition for legal restrictions associated with a photograph.

66. (previously presented) The computer system of claim 63 wherein the DTD defines metadata for audio recordings and metadata attributes for the audio-recordings metadata, the audio-recordings-metadata attributes comprising at least one of:

- a definition for music;
- a definition for track title;
- a definition for duration;
- a definition for compact disc (CD) number;
- a definition for CD title; and
- a definition for rights issues regarding use of an audio recording.



67. (previously presented) The computer system of claim 63 wherein the database stores rights management metadata for at least three different types of digital assets stored in the database and the rights management metadata comprises at least one of:

- a contract identifier;
- an availability start date;
- an availability end date;
- an allowed number of plays per agreement;
- a copyright holder identifier; and
- a worldwide rights identifier.

68. (currently amended) A computer system for storing, searching, retrieving, and tracking different types of digital assets, the system comprising:

- a server comprising application software and a database, the database storing a plurality of digital assets of different types, the plurality of different types including photographs, movies, audio recordings, video recordings, graphics, and text documents, each asset comprising content and metadata, the metadata comprising rights management information, the digital assets stored in the database comprising a photograph, a video recording, and a text document;

- a first computer readable storage medium comprising a single data definitions file accessible by the server application software, the data definitions file defining the data structure of each type of digital asset stored in the database;

- a second computer readable storage medium comprising search and retrieval software for searching and retrieving one or more of the plurality of different types of digital assets from the database, the search and retrieval software requiring a user to enter as search criteria one or more of the plurality of different digital asset types; and

- a processor coupled to the server and operative to execute the search and retrieval software to convert search criteria entered by a user into a demand for database information and to display results returned from the server.

69. (previously presented) The computer system of claim 68 wherein the data definitions file comprises a document type definition (DTD).

70. (previously presented) The computer system of claim 68 wherein the data definitions file defines metadata for photographs and metadata attributes for the photograph metadata, the photograph-metadata attributes comprising at least one of:

- a definition for black/white;
- a definition for color;
- a definition for caption; and
- a definition for legal restrictions associated with a photograph.

71. (previously presented) The computer system of claim 68 wherein the rights management metadata comprises at least one of:

- a contract identifier;
- an availability start date;
- an availability end date;
- an allowed number of plays per agreement;
- a copyright holder identifier; and
- a worldwide rights identifier.

72. (previously presented) A computer system for storing, searching, retrieving, and tracking different types of digital assets, the system comprising:

- a server comprising application software and a database, the database storing four types of digital assets, the four types including photographs, movies, promos, and audio recordings, each digital asset comprising content and metadata, the metadata comprising rights management information;

- a document type definition (DTD) accessible by the server application software, the DTD defining the structure of the four types of digital assets stored in the database with declared elements and attributes;

search and retrieval software for searching and retrieving one or more of the four types of digital assets from the database, the search and retrieval software requiring a user to enter as search criteria one or more of the four digital asset types; and

a processor coupled to the server and operative to execute the search and retrieval software to convert search criteria entered by a user into a demand for database information and to display results returned from the server.

73. (previously presented) The computer system of claim 72 wherein the processor is part of a workstation, a laptop, or desktop computer coupled to the server via secure transmission lines or a firewall and non-secure transmission lines.

74. (previously presented) The computer system of claim 72 wherein the DTD defines metadata for photographs and metadata attributes for the photograph metadata, the photograph-metadata attributes comprising at least one of:

- a definition for black/white;
- a definition for color;
- a definition for caption; and
- a definition for legal restrictions associated with a photograph.

75. (previously presented) The computer system of claim 72 wherein the DTD defines metadata for audio recordings and metadata attributes for the audio-recordings metadata, the audio-recordings-metadata attributes comprising at least one of:

- a definition for music;
- a definition for track title;
- a definition for duration;
- a definition for compact disc (CD) number;
- a definition for CD title; and
- a definition for rights issues regarding use of an audio recording.

76. (previously presented) The computer system of claim 72 wherein the rights management metadata comprises at least one of:

- a contract identifier;
- an availability start date;
- an availability end date;
- an allowed number of plays per agreement;
- a copyright holder identifier; and
- a worldwide rights identifier.

77. (previously presented) The computer system of claim 72 wherein the DTD defines metadata for movies and metadata attributes for the movie metadata, the movie-metadata attributes comprising at least one of:

- a definition for title;
- a definition for version;
- a definition for rating;
- a definition for minutes;
- a definition for release date;
- a definition for run time;
- a definition for color;
- a definition for synopsis;
- a definition for director;
- a definition for cast; and
- a definition for allowable usage of a movie.